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COUNTRY Polish-occupied Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Polish Troops in Breslau

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

50X1

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 5 April 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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Troop Camp at the Schottwitz Railroad Station.

1. Prior to August 1950, a troop camp consisting of 40 wooden barracks, one large garage and one storehouse was seen southeast of the Schottwitz (Soltysowice) railroad station on the south side of Ul. Boleslaw Krzywoustego leading from Breslau (P 52/C 41) to Hundsfield (P 52/C 52) and on the east side of Aleja Aleks. Brycknera. The camp was surrounded by a barbed-wire fence. Fifteen of the wooden barracks buildings fronted on Ul. Boleslaw Krzywoustego. They were arranged so that each building at right angles the street alternated with two buildings, one behind the other, paralleling the street. The camp was built in 1947, and Polish soldiers were first observed there in the summer of 1948. Almost all Polish troops stationed in Breslau were allegedly quartered in this installation. (1)
2. The Polish soldiers quartered in the camp were on active service. Those serving in 1950 were of the 1927 and 1928 classes. The soldiers wore light brown uniforms with epaulets to match, and triangular collar patches, half black and half red, on the stand-up collars. When in dress uniform, the troops wore round caps with red ribbons and the Polish eagle without a crown. The uniform buttons were of a dull golden color and bore the Polish eagle. The troops were often seen leaving their quarters on not more, but usually less, than 40 trucks. Each truck was occupied by about 20 soldiers. Most of the trucks were Studebakers. From 100 to 130 fully-equipped soldiers were also seen leaving the camp on foot. The troops included a unit which was equipped with about 13 guns towed by trucks.
3. In general, the troops in the camp were armed with rifles, light machine guns, submachine guns with wooden stocks and drum magazines, all-metal submachine guns with clip magazines, bazookas which were about 75 cm long, and stick hand grenades. (2) The guns seen by source were mounted on split-trail carriages with ribbed disk wheels with pneumatic tires. The gun barrel with muzzle brake was from 2 to 3 meters long, including a jacket which measured about 50 cm from the gun shield. The diameter of the gun

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barrel was estimated at 120 to 130 mm. The square gun shield had no slots for the wheels and was considerably below an average man's height. The gun barrel extending forward from the gun shield was longer than the gun carriage. (3) Together with the AT guns, a single gun of 70 to 80 mm caliber mounted on a three-axle truck was seen. This gun had a barrel about 250 to 300 cm in length, including a muzzle brake. The pedestal-mounted gun had two tubular supports, one on top and one aft of the driver's cabin. (4)

4. Local residents said that troops in the camp practiced at a training field west of Breslau, near the Pavovar electric (sic) factory. Troops were often seen leaving on trucks for night practice.

The soldiers had high morale and were well fed. No anti-Soviet utterances were heard.

Political School of the MO.

5. Prior to August 1950, a political school of the MO was housed in the former Catholic church on the north side of Aleja Jana Kasprowicza in the city sector of Karlowitz. The church contained a large auditorium with motion picture facilities and billboards. Personnel entering and leaving the building wore blue-gray MO uniforms and blue visor-type caps with dark blue ribbons.

Barracks Installation in Rosenthal.

6. The barracks installation in **Rosenthal** (Kozanka), on the west side of Ul. Gbor-nicka, was occupied by Polish units prior to September 1950. Residents of Oswitz said that three KDW units and an engineer officers' school were quartered there. Members of the engineer officers' school had the letters SO on their epauletts. Officers of the school said that they often went to Modlin (R 53/K 71). (5)

Engineer Training Area West of Oswitz.

7. Prior to September 1950, pontoons and bridge building equipment were often seen in the engineer training area west of Oswitz. A swimming pool for engineer officers was nearby. A barbed-wire fence was constructed around the area in early September 1950.

Comments.

- (1) There are additional barracks installations in **Breslau-Rosenthal** and **Breslau-Karlowitz**, which are also partially occupied by Polish troops.
- (2) The equipment and armament observed indicate that the unit was a motorized infantry regiment. It is possible, however, that only the regimental headquarters units were motorized.
- (3) The gun is believed to have been a model ZIS-3 76-mm AT gun.
- (4) Probably a truck-mounted AT gun.
- (5) A KDW unit, probably a battalion, was reported to be stationed in **Breslau-Rosenthal**. The engineer officer candidate school was reported to be quartered in the **Breslau-Karlowitz** barracks installations. The letters SO probably stand for officers' school. An engineer training center is in Modlin.

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